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TO: Internal File

FROM: Stephen J. Demczak, Reclamation Specialist, Team Lead *SSD jaygm*

RE: Water Tank, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC., SUFCO Mine, C/041/002-01D

SUMMARY:

SUFCO Mine has submitted an amendment to expand the capacity of surface water system. SUFCO is currently limited to fighting fire using the existing water capacity. The present storage capacity is 20,000 gallons of water. The proposed new 300,000 gallon fire water tank will increase the fire fighting capacity at the SUFCO Mine and reduce the risk of losing the whole mine operation due to a fire.

The permittee has found an error in the addition in the reclamation bond to the sum of \$404,000. The present bond will not be changed at this time. The SUFCO Mine permit is to be renewed in 2002 and corrections will be made at that time.

The permittee has submitted an updated surface facility map. This map has the old mine fan and control house removed. The permittee, in late summer, had these facilities removed since they were no longer needed.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.22; R645-301-230.

Analysis:

TECHNICAL MEMO

Removal and Storage

The permittee conducted a soil investigation at the water tank area by taking a profile of exposed soil in a cutslope. This cutslope is part of the water tank area, and will be removed once the project is approved. The soil in this area is Type X as described in Section 2.2 and 2.3. The identified A-1 horizon extended from 1.5 to 7.5 inches below the surface. The AC horizon extended from a depth of 7.5 to 12 inches. The Cca horizon extended from a depth of 12 inches to approximately 42 inches. A copy of a field log is enclosed within this amendment.

The permittee will remove the first 6 inches of topsoil and subsoil. This process will remove the majority of all topsoil and additional subsoil. By removing the first six inches of soil, there will be more soil saved for reclamation than just removing the topsoil only.

The storage of the topsoil and sub-soil material will be at the waste rock site until reclamation.

Findings:

The information provided is considered adequate and meets the requirements of this section.

VEGETATION

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-330, -301-331, -301-332.

Analysis:

The permittee will not reseed this area after construction since the topsoil will be removed. This area will be reclaimed during the reclamation of the mine site. The seed mix to be used is outlined in the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

Findings:

The permittee has met the requirements for this section of the R645 Coal Rules.

HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 773.17, 774.13, 784.14, 784.16, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-300-140, -300-141, -300-142, -300-143, -300-144, -300-145, -300-146, -300-147, -300-147, -300-148, -301-512, -301-514, -301-521, -301-531, -301-532, -301-533, -301-536, -301-542, -301-720, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-761, -301-764.

Analysis:

Sediment Control Measures

The permittee plans to use sediment control for this area. The sediment control measures will consist of a gravel pad and a silt fence. The silt fence is now in place to treat the runoff from the joining substation. The 300,000-gallon water tank area will actually have two treatments for sediment.

This Alternate Sediment Area will consist of the substation and the water tank increasing from 0.1910 acre to 0.324 acre.

Findings:

The information provided is considered adequate and meets the requirements of this section.

SUPPORT FACILITIES AND UTILITY INSTALLATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.30, 817.180, 817.181; R645-301-526.

Analysis:

The permittee has requested to install a 300,000-gallon water tank for fire suppression. The permittee has removed the old mine fan and associated building since they are no longer needed. The Surface Facilities Map, Plate 5-2B has been updated to reflect these changes.

Findings:

The proposed amendment has met the requirements of this section in the R645 Coal Rules.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731, -302-323.

Analysis:

Mining facilities maps

The permittee has submitted an updated surface facilities map, Plate 5-2B, 5-3A, and 5-

TECHNICAL MEMO

3B showing the construction of the 300,000-gallon water tanks and the expanded alternate sediment control area. This map is P.E. certified by Wesley K. Sorensen badge number #159457.

Findings:

This section of the proposed amendment meets the requirements of the R645 Coal Rules.

BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 800; R645-301-800, et seq.

Analysis:

General

The permittee has submitted several changes to the bond calculations. The amendment has removed several items from the bond. The permittee has removed structures on the ground because they were no longer needed to conduct mining. These changes are the removal of one fan housing, Shed, and Motor House building. The Link Canyon Portal was never developed because of an unforeseen burn area in the coal seam. The Link Canyon Portal was bonded and now has been removed. The permittee has added the 300,000-gallon water tank and the additional cut and fill work, and the Link Canyon substation.

The biggest change to the bond was an addition error on Page 5 in the bond calculations section of the Mining and Reclamation Plan. Several numbers were added twice causing an error of \$404,000 of additional bond. With the change made above, the new bonding amount should be \$4,044,000. The surety bond for the SUFCO is \$4,439,000. The permittee will not adjust the bonding amount until the permit renewal. This will take place in 2002.

Findings:

The information submitted meets the minimum requirements of this section in the R645 Coal Rules.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The information provided is considered adequate and meets the requirements of the regulations. It is recommended that this amendment be approved.